

### **AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (new): An isolated polynucleotide comprising:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having sulfate permease activity, wherein the polypeptide has an amino acid sequence of at least 80% sequence identity, based on the Clustal method of alignment, when compared to SEQ ID NO:18, or
- (b) a full-length complement of the nucleotide sequence of (a).

Claim 13 (new): The polynucleotide of Claim 12, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide has at least 85% sequence identity, based on the Clustal method of alignment, when compared to SEQ ID NO:18.

Claim 14 (new): The polynucleotide of Claim 12, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide has at least 90% sequence identity, based on the Clustal method of alignment, when compared to SEQ ID NO:18.

Claim 15 (new): The polynucleotide of Claim 12, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide has at least 95% sequence identity, based on the Clustal method of alignment, when compared to SEQ ID NO:18.

Claim 16 (new): The polynucleotide of Claim 12, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:18.

Claim 17 (new): The polynucleotide of Claim 12, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises SEQ ID NO:17.

Claim 18 (new): A vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 12.

Claim 19 (new): A recombinant DNA construct comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 12 operably linked to suitable regulatory sequences.

Claim 20 (new): A method for transforming a cell, comprising transforming a cell with the polynucleotide of Claim 12.

Claim 21 (new): A cell comprising the recombinant DNA construct of Claim 19.

Claim 22 (new): A method for producing a plant comprising transforming a plant cell with the polynucleotide of Claim 12 and regenerating a plant from the transformed plant cell.

Claim 23 (new): A plant comprising the recombinant DNA construct of Claim 19.

Claim 24 (new): A seed comprising the recombinant DNA construct of Claim 19.